



Office of the City Manager

03

RECESS ITEM
CONSENT CALENDAR
January 21, 2025

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager
Submitted by: Scott Gilman, Director, Health, Housing, and Community Services
Subject: Contract No. 32400177 Amendment - Health Officer Coverage Contract – Dr. Lisa B. Hernandez

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to amend Contract No. 32400177 with Dr. Lisa B. Hernandez to increase by \$20,000 for a total not to exceed amount (NTE) of \$120,000.

NEGATIVE EFFECT IF ACTION IS DELAYED UNTIL AFTER COUNCIL RECESS

The City will have a gap in Health Officer coverage when the Health Officer is out of the office and unavailable.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Costs for Health Officer coverage will be paid for by General Funds (Fund 011) salary savings in the Fiscal Year 2025 Adopted Budget. The grant (fund 302) that supported this contract last year was reduced for all jurisdictions statewide due to budget cuts. Payment will be \$50 per hour/\$1,200 per day. Total costs are not to exceed \$120,000.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley receives funding from the California Department of Public Health through the Future of Public Health grant. The funding requires each local health jurisdiction to have Health Officer on-call coverage at all times. The City of Berkeley currently relies on backup coverage while the City Health Officer is on leave.

BACKGROUND

Most public health jurisdictions have on-call Health Officer coverage to address urgent communicable diseases and other public health issues. Additionally, this coverage is required by the Future of Public Health grant. Dr. Hernandez served as Health Officer for the City of Berkeley for five years, until July 2023. The City Council is asked to approve continued Health Officer coverage, as Council also approves the appointment of a permanent Health Officer.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no identifiable environmental effects, climate impacts, or sustainability opportunities associated with the subject of this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Health Officer coverage is required by the Future of Public Health grant and may be needed if urgent public health issues arise.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

The City could continue to have periodic gaps in Health Officer coverage when the Health Officer is unavailable.

CONTACT PERSON

Alexandra Deitch, Sr. Health Services Program Specialist, HHCS, 510-981-5379

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT NO. 32400177 AMENDMENT: DR. LISA B. HERNANDEZ FOR HEALTH OFFICER SERVICES DURING PERIODS WHEN THE CITY HEALTH OFFICER IS OUT OF OFFICE

WHEREAS, most public health jurisdictions have on-call Health Officer coverage to address urgent communicable diseases and other public health issues; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley receives funding from the California Department of Public Health through the Future of Public Health grant, which requires each local health jurisdiction to have Health Officer coverage at all times; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lisa B. Hernandez served as the Health Officer for the City of Berkeley for five years, and is willing to provide coverage for the City of Berkeley again; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2024, the City of Berkeley entered into contract with Dr. Hernandez (Contract 32400177) to provide Health Officer coverage when the Health Officer is out of the office to ensure 24/7 Health Officer coverage; and

WHEREAS, an additional \$20,000 is needed to increase the existing contract for Health Officer coverage for the City of Berkeley when the Health Officer is out of the office and unavailable.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or his designee is authorized to amend Contract No. 32400177 and any amendments with Dr. Lisa Hernandez from April 1, 2024, to June 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$120,000 utilizing General Funds and Future of Public Health Grant Funds.

